

Application No. 10/799,947 2 of 19
Reply dated 6 December 2005
Responsive to Office Action mailed on 4 October 2005

AMENDMENT TO THE DESCRIPTION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12 at line 23 of the application as originally filed with the following rewritten paragraph. This paragraph was previously amended.

As shown in **Figure 19**, in some exemplary embodiments, an absorbent core storage component 272 may include the discrete form of an absorbent material that is immobilized in pockets formed by a layer of a thermoplastic material, such as a hot melt adhesive, that intermittently contacts and adheres to a substrate sheet, while diverging away from the substrate sheet at the pockets. Absorbent core components having such structures and being suitable for the storage of liquid bodily wastes are described in co-pending and commonly assigned European Patent Applications Nos. 03 002 678.5 and 03 002 677.7, both filed on 12 February 2003 ~~in the name of Ehrnsperger et al.~~, and in co-pending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Applications Nos. 10/776,839, published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0167486 on 26 August 2004, and 10/776,851, published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0162536 on 19 August 2004, both filed on 11 February 2004 ~~in the name of Ehrnsperger et al.~~ with respective priority claims to the aforementioned European Applications. An exemplary absorbent core storage component 272 having such a structure is shown in **Figure 19**. In this absorbent core storage component 272, particles 270 of a superabsorbent polymer are contained inside pockets 280 formed by a layer 275 of a thermoplastic material. The absorbent core storage component may include both particles of a superabsorbent polymer and airfelt and both materials may be contained inside the pockets formed by the layer of the thermoplastic material. Alternatively, as shown in **Figure 19**, an exemplary absorbent core storage component may contain no airfelt and therefore the component can be made relatively thinner and more flexible for the comfort of the wearer. In addition, the particles of the superabsorbent polymer can be immobilized relatively more easily in the absence of airfelt. As shown in **Figure 19**, the layer 275 of the thermoplastic material intermittently contacts and adheres to a substrate sheet 274 at the areas of attachment 282. Between the areas of attachment 282, the layer 275 diverges away from the substrate sheet 274 to form the pockets 280. The layer 275 may have the form of a sheet of fibers of the thermoplastic material through which the liquid bodily waste may pass to be absorbed by the particles 270 of the superabsorbent polymer.